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ACTION AF-01

INFO	LOG-00	AGRE-00	AID-01	A-01	CIAE-00	OASY-00	DS-00
	EB-01	EUR-01	OIGO-01	FDRE-01	TEDE-00	INR-00	IO-16
	ADS-00	NSAE-00	NSCE-00	OIC-02	OMB-01	PA-02	PRS-01
	SP-00	SR-00	SSO-00	SS-00	TRSE-00	USIE-00	ASDS-01
	DSCC-00	PRM-10	DRL-09	/049W			

-----58F4E5 051707Z /49

O 051504Z JUL 94  
FM AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4015  
INFO AMEMBASSY NAIROBI IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY KAMPALA PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA  
SECDEF WASHDC//SOLIC:HRA//  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
SECDEF WASHDC//OASD (SOLIC) HRA-OPS//  
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK  
USEU BRUSSELS  
USMISSION GENEVA  
JOINT STAFF WASHDC  
AMEMBASSY ROME  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
USEUCOM VAIHINGEN GE

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DEPT FOR AF/C AND PRM  
USAID FOR BHR/OFDA  
NAIROBI FOR USAID/DART  
ADDRESSEES FOR REFOFFICERS  
LONDON FOR MCKINLEY  
GENEVA FOR RMA

E.O. 12356: N/A  
TAGS: EAID, PREF, ASEC, AMGT, BY, RW  
SUBJECT: RWANDA - FALL OF BUTARE TRIGGERS FLOW OF  
250,000 DISPLACED TOWARDS BURUNDI

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1. THE RPF MOVED INTO BUTARE IN SOUTHERN RWANDA OVER THE WEEKEND OF JULY 2. AS CONTROL OF THE TOWN WAS CONSOLIDATED, RESIDENTS OF A CAMP OF 150,000 DISPLACED LOCATED SEVERAL KILOMETERS SOUTH OF THE CITY BEGAN TO MOVE SOUTHWARDS TOWARDS THE BURUNDI BORDER ON THE BUTARE ROAD. THEY WERE JOINED, ACCORDING TO EYEWITNESSES, BY AN ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL 100,000 RESIDENTS AND DISPLACED FROM THE AREA.

2. OVER THE WEEKEND, THE RELIEF COMMUNITY IN BURUNDI STEELED ITSELF FOR A BENAKO-LIKE INFLUX: FIELD OFFICERS WERE DISPATCHED, TRUCKS WERE ON STANDBY AND THERE WAS A FLURRY OF MEETINGS BETWEEN UNHCR AND ITS IMPLEMENTING AGENCIES. HOWEVER, AS OF THE MORNING OF JULY 5, THERE HAD ONLY BEEN A TRICKLE OF REFUGEES OVER THE BORDER INTO BURUNDI. UNHCR REPORTED THAT ON SUNDAY 360 BUSINESSMEN CROSSED THE BORDER FROM BUTARE FOLLOWED ON MONDAY BY 192 REFUGEES AND 1,000 RETURNEES. ON SUNDAY AND MONDAY ABOUT 3,000 CROSSED AT KIRUNDO COMING FROM BUTARE. NO REFUGEES HAVE

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CROSSED INTO CIBITOKI PROVINCE TO DATE.

3. THE REASON FOR THE SLOW MOVEMENT OF THE DISPLACED WAS PUZZLING UNTIL TRAVELERS REPORTED THAT MILITIA ARE CONTROLLING POPULATION MOVEMENTS AT A CHECKPOINT ABOUT 5 KM FROM THE BORDER. ACCORDING TO TRAVELERS, THE MILITIA ARE URGING PEOPLE TO MOVE WEST TO THE FRENCH "SAFE ZONE" AT GIKONGORO BUT THERE IS NO EVIDENCE YET OF ANY MASSIVE MOVE IN THAT DIRECTION. A NUMBER OF NGOS ALONG WITH THE UN ARE ORGANIZING AN ASSESSMENT TO INVESTIGATE THE SITUATION BEGINNING ON JULY 6.

4. IN PREPARATION FOR A POSSIBLE INFLUX, UNHCR HAS PREPOSITIONED FOOD AND NON-FOOD SUPPLIES FOR UP TO 100,000 PEOPLE IN NGOZI, AND HAS IDENTIFIED FOUR TRANSIT SITES AS WELL AS TWO PERMANENT SITES AT KABARORE AND BUSIGA FOR UP TO 55,000. THERE WILL HAVE TO BE URGENT NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF BURUNDI FOR ADDITIONAL SITES SHOULD THE REFUGEE INFLUX EXCEED 55,000 IN THE SHORT TERM. FOR NOW EVERYONE IS WATCHING AND WAITING.

KRUEGER

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